

LIBRARY

7 AUG 48

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH

of the

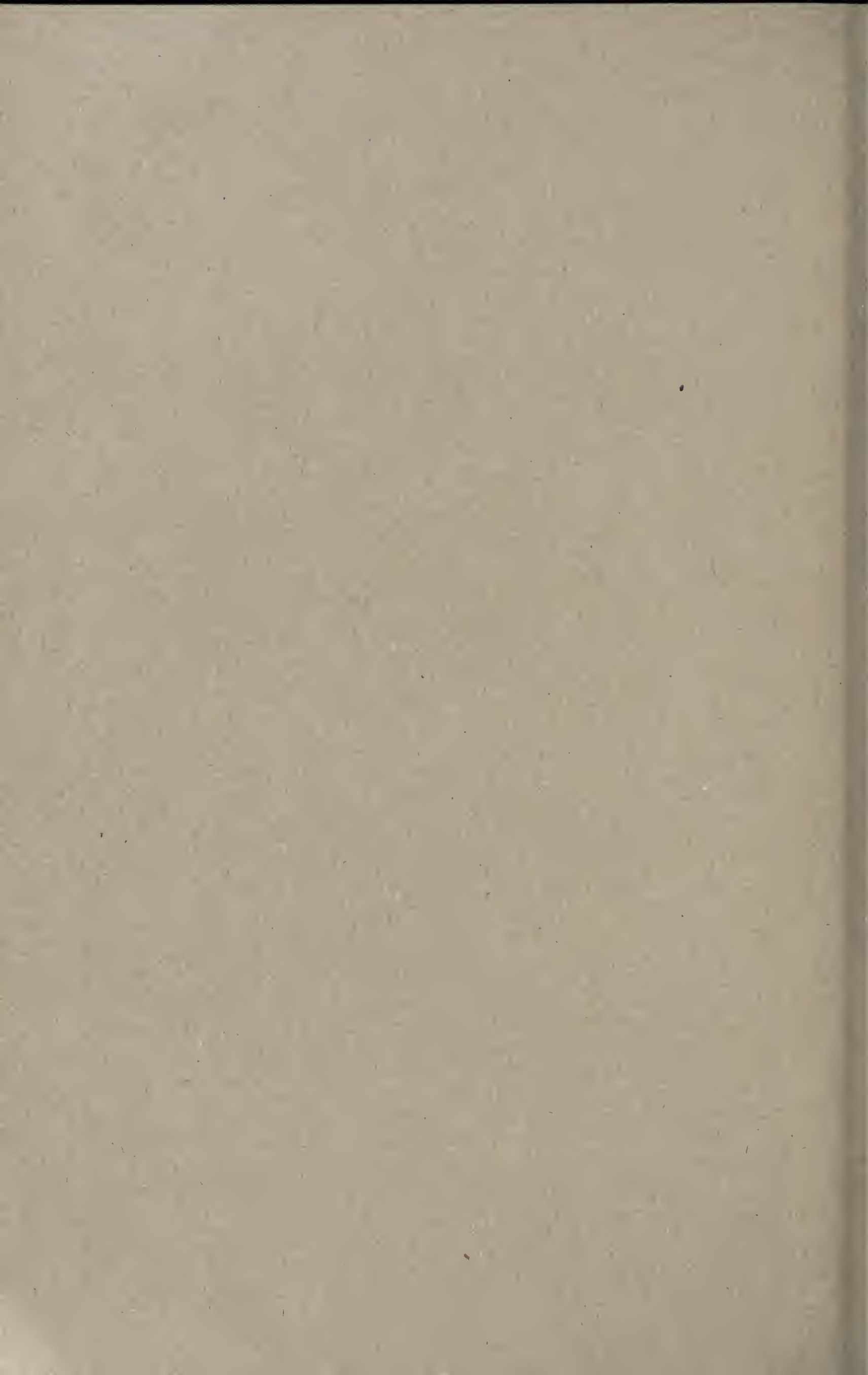
Rural District of Dursley

for the Year 1947

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Printed by F. Bailey & Son Ltd., Dursley.



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH

of the

Rural District of Dursley

for the Year 1947



by

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29174545>

DURSLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman :

W. A. WALTERS, Esq., J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman :

F. THOMAS, Esq., C.C.

Clerk of the Council :

E. J. LAMB, D.P.A. (Lond.) Barrister-at-Law.

Councillors :

F. G. Bailey	A. L. Hoyle
L. G. T. Brewer	D. Moss
The Rev. J. D. Buckley, M.A.	W. Niblett
A. Coates, J.P.	Lt.-Col. B. H. Oldridge
W. J. Edmonds	C. A. Pearce
J. S. Eley	Mrs. O. G. Pepworth
F. C. Ford	B. V. Prout
Mrs. H. H. Fry	J. L. Selby Robinson
C. R. Gardner	Rev. Dr. T. A. Ryder, M.A., PH.D.
C. A. Garn	The Rev. W. H. Thomas, M.A.
S. Hooper	L. Workman
E. J. Close	M. P. Workman

Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health :

January, 1947—October, 1947—J. H. Kitson, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.
November, 1947—W. J. Douglas Cooper, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Engineer and Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. J. Dimery, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.I.

Deputy Surveyor : N. R. W. Lee.

Sanitary Inspector : W. H. Williams, M.R.S.I.

Engineering Assistant : R. G. Hughes.

General Assistant : C. W. R. Fisher.

Clerk to Public Health Department : Mrs. E. M. Hoare.

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the

DURSLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my First Annual Report on the Health of this District.

The report is based in accordance with the requirements on the Ministry of Health Circular 170/47, and statistics are calculated from returns made by the Registrar-General.

Social Conditions.

No important change has taken place in the nature of the chief trades carried out in the District. These are :—

- (1) Agriculture and Allied Trades.
- (2) Braid and Loom Elastic and Smallwares.
- (3) Flour Mill.
- (4) Baking.
- (5) General Engineering.
- (6) Electrical Engineering.
- (7) Carpet Manufacturing.
- (8) Cloth Manufacturing.
- (9) Paper pulping Mills.
- (10) Fibre Box Manufacturers.
- (11) Wood Turneries.

STATISTICS, 1947

(a) General Statistics.

Area of District	..	..	..	..	26,095 acres
Population (Registrar General's estimate, mid 1947)	..				16,290
Number of inhabited properties (Rate Books)	..				5,065
Number of inhabitants per property	..				3.25
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	£62,859
Sum represented by 1d. rate	..	..	..	..	£255
Number of Council Houses	..	..	..	..	685
Number of Requisitioned Houses	..	..	..	..	34
Percentage of Council Houses	..	..	..	..	13.5%

Inhabited Properties.

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	4664
Farms	..	..	..	..	..	168
Houses & Shops	..	..	..	..	..	183
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	50
Total	..	..	..	..	..	5065

Percentage of area served by Main Water = 98%
Percentage of area served by Modern Sewers = 66%

Varying Populations of Dursley Rural District.

Year.						Population
1901	..	..	..	..	..	11,636
1911	..	..	..	..	..	12,233
1921	..	..	..	..	..	12,560
1931	..	..	..	..	..	13,217
1937	..	..	..	..	..	14,400
1938	..	..	..	..	..	14,600
1939	..	..	..	..	..	16,122
1946	..	..	..	..	..	16,220
1947	..	..	..	..	..	16,290

From these figures it can be seen that the population of the District still continues to increase.

(b) Extracts from Vital Statistics.

LIVE BIRTHS :				Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	..	..	..	286	133	153
Illegitimate	..	..	..	6	2	4
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Population mid 1947						17.4
Birth Rate, England and Wales						19.4
STILL BIRTHS :				Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	..	..	..	9	5	4
Illegitimate	..	..	..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still births)						29.9
DEATHS :				Total.	M.	F.
				177	98	79
Death Rate, England and Wales						12.0
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population ..						10.8

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, Childbirth.

From Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
From Other Causes	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)						Nil

Death of Infants under one year.

				Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	..	..	..	7	5	2
Illegitimate	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	23.9
Infant Mortality Rate for England & Wales	..	..	..	41
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	24.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	27
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under two years)	..	..	..	1
Deaths from Tuberculosis (all ages)	..	..	..	6
Deaths from Cerebro Spinal Fever	..	..	..	1

The most common causes of Death in this District are in order :

(1)	Heart Diseases	..	..	..	50
(2)	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	..	..	..	31
(3)	Cancer	..	..	..	27
(4)	Diseases of the Circulatory System	..	..	..	12
(5)	Tuberculosis	..	..	..	6
(6)	Violent Causes	..	..	..	5
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population					17.4
Death Rate per 1,000 of population					10.8

CAUSES OF DEATHS, 1947.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.			Under 1 year.	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—	Total
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.. 1									
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.. .. 2		1							1
3.	Scarlet Fever	.. .. 3									
4.	Whooping Cough	.. .. 4									
5.	Diphtheria	.. .. 5									
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	.. 6				4					4
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	.. 7		1			1				2
8.	Syphilitic Disease	.. .. 8									
9.	Influenza	.. .. 9									
10.	Measles	.. .. 10									
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	.. 11									
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	.. 12					1	1			2
13.	M.—Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (males only)	.. ..					1				1
13.	F.—Cancer of uterus	.. 13									
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	.. 14					1	2	2		5
15.	Cancer of Breast	.. 15					2				2
16.	Cancer of all other sites	.. 16					7	7	5		19
17.	Diabetes	.. 17									
18.	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	.. 18			1	2	4	11	13		31
19.	Heart Disease	.. 19	1	1	1	5	7	13	22		50
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	20					2	5	5		12
21.	Bronchitis	.. 21					3	3	4		10
22.	Pneumonia	.. 22				1	1		1		3
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	.. 23					1		1		2
24.	Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	24									
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	.. 25	1								1
26.	Appendicitis	.. 26									
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	.. 27					1				1
28.	Nephritis	.. 28		1		1		2			4
29.	Puerperal and Post Obortive Sepsis	.. 29									
30.	Other Maternal Causes	.. 30									
31.	Premature Birth	.. 31	2								2
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disability	.. 32	3								3
33.	Suicide	.. 33					2				2
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	.. 34		1							1
35.	Other Violent Causes	.. 35	1		1		2	1			5
36.	All other Causes	.. 36					1	4	9		14

Total : 177

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS, 1947.

DISEASE	Under, 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4—5 years	6—9 years	10—14 years	15—19 years	20—34 years	35—44 years	45—65 years	Over 65 years u known	TO- TAL
Scarlet Fever			2		1								3
Diphtheria		1											1
Puer. Pyrexia									2				2
Pneumonia					2					1		1	4
Erysipelas													—
Dysentery	1												1
Ophthalmia N.													—
Anterior Polio							1	1					2
Malaria													—
Whooping C.	2	3	3	4	7	4	1	1					25
Measles	2	13	24	29	99	74	1		4	1		1	248
Cereb. Sp. M.						1							1
Typhoid													—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—								
1—			1					
5—	1			1				1
15—		3						
25—	2	1		1				
35—	4	1			4			
45—								1
55—	1							
65 and upwards								
Age Unknown								
TOTALS	8	5	1	2	4	—	—	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

1.—During the year 1947, there were 248 cases of Measles in the District. This was not unduly high, considering the fact that it was an epidemic year of Measles all over the Country.

2.—There was one case of Diphtheria—a child of one year who had not been previously immunised. This case was removed to Over Hospital and recovered.

3.—The District had two cases of anterior poliomyelitis—both females—one aged 15 and one aged 13 years. They were both admitted to hospital and eventually discharged with residual paralysis. They still attend Gloucestershire Royal Infirmary for Physiotherapy.

4.—One child—a male, aged 9 years, died from Cerebro Spinal Fever.

5.—Twelve cases of Infectious Disease were admitted to hospital.

6.—Five cases of Measles were removed from the Public Assistance Institution at Dursley to Over Isolation Hospital.

7.—Two cases of suspected Diphtheria were admitted to hospital. These were confirmed later as (a) case of Stomatitis, and (b) case of Vincent's Angina.

8.—One case of Dysentery in a child was admitted to Ham Green Isolation Hospital, Bristol.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1.—Laboratory Services.

- (a) Examinations of Sputa, swabs and blood are carried out by the Laboratory at Gloucester Royal Infirmary through an arrangement with the County Council.
- (b) Bacterial examinations of water are carried out for the Council by Rowland Ellis, City and County of Gloucester Analyst.
- (c) Chemical and Biological examinations of milk are carried out for the Council by the Department of Bacteriology and Pathology at Gloucester Royal Infirmary.

2.—Ambulance Facilities.

The District is served by:—

- (a) The Dursley Rural District Council Ambulance which is manned by one full time employee and all the remainder of the team are voluntary workers.
- (b) Wotton-under-Edge Ambulance which is run on a purely voluntary basis by the local people.
- (c) Messrs. R. A. Lister & Co. use their own works ambulance for emergency cases.
- (d) On occasions, cases are removed to hospital by Berkeley & District Hospital Ambulance and also by ambulances from Gloucester Royal Infirmary.
- (e) Cases of infectious disease in the area are removed to Over Isolation Hospital, Gloucester, by their own ambulance.

3.—Hospital.

This Rural District has not any hospital accommodation. It is thought by many people that this urbanised type of Rural District should be supplied with a hospital under the new regional scheme for hospitals. All ordinary cases are treated in Bristol Royal Infirmary, Gloucestershire Royal Infirmary and Berkeley and District General Hospital.

4.—Diphtheria Immunisation is carried out by the local General Practitioners, the School Medical Officers and at the local Welfare Clinic Centres.

5.—Mortuary Accommodation.

The Council own its own Mortuary and post mortem room. This is situated at Wotton-under-Edge and serves the whole District.

6.—Various Welfare Centres are situated in the District. These are administered by Gloucestershire County Council who are the local supervising authority for Maternity and Child Welfare Services in the District.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Annual Return for year ending 31st December, 1947.

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population.

Number of children who had completed a full course at any time up to 31st December, 1947.

<i>Age at 31-12-47 i.e. Born in Year</i>	<i>Under 1 1947</i>	<i>1 1946</i>	<i>2 1945</i>	<i>3 1944</i>	<i>4 1943</i>	<i>5—9 1938—42</i>	<i>10—14 1933—37</i>	<i>Total under 15</i>
<i>Number Immunised</i>	8	154	161	203	159	1233	1089	3·007
<i>Estimated Mid- year Child Popu- lation 1947.</i>	<i>Children under 5</i> 1410					<i>Children 5—14</i> 2490		3,900

One case of Diphtheria was notified in 1947. This child had not completed a course of Diphtheria Immunisation.

Percentage of Child Population under 15 years of age who have completed a course of Diphtheria Immunisation=77·1%.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

	<i>Reasonably fit in all respects</i>	<i>Minor defects</i>	<i>Requiring Repairs</i>	<i>Appropriate for re- conditioning</i>	<i>Unfit for habitation beyond repair</i>	
<i>PARISH</i>	<i>Category 1</i>	<i>Category 2</i>	<i>Category 3</i>	<i>Category 4</i>	<i>Category 5</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Cam	40	528	104	12	60	744
Coaley	13	58	64	1	31	167
Dursley	230	667	127	1	130	1155
Kingswood	5	64	89	—	79	237
North Nibley	4	68	75	1	28	176
Nympsfield	1	19	22	2	14	58
Slimbridge	6	103	62	1	28	200
Stinchcombe	12	37	29	—	5	83
Uley & Owlpen	7	123	68	—	63	261
Wotton-U-Edge	29	306	379	3	183	900
TOTALS	347	1973	1019	21	621	3981
Percentage of Totals	8·7	49·5	25·7	0·5	15·6	100%

HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

<i>Parish.</i>						<i>Number of applications.</i>
Cam & Dursley ..	..	..	..	..	..	600
Wotton-under-Edge		..	..	..	..	163
Uley & Owlpen ..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Kingswood ..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Slimbridge ..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Stinchcombe ..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Nympsfield ..	..	..	..	..	..	14
North Nibley ..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Coaley ..	..	..	..	..	..	11
TOTAL						901

NUMBER OF COUNCIL HOUSES FINISHED IN 1947.

<i>Parish.</i>						<i>Total No.</i>
Cam	1 Traditional ..	..	..	..	..	1
North Nibley	4 Swedish ..	..	..	..	..	4
Stinchcombe	4 Swedish ..	..	..	..	..	4
Uley	4 Swedish and 6 Traditional	..	..	..	..	10
TOTAL ..						19

NUMBER OF COUNCIL HOUSES IN PROCESS OF BUILDING,
1947.

<i>Parish.</i>					<i>Total No.</i>
Cam	19 Traditional	..	..	..	19
Coaley	8 Airey	..	..	..	8
Dursley	66 Stent	..	..	..	66
Kingswood	10 Airey	..	..	..	10
North Nibley	12 Airey	..	..	..	12
Slimbridge	—	..	..	..	—
Stinchcombe	—	..	..	..	—
Uley	—	..	..	..	—
Wotton-under-Edge	40 Traditional, 4 Swedish, 12 Airey				56
					<hr/>
	TOTAL	..	..	..	171

WATER SUPPLY.

The Council have their own water supply and 98% of its statutory area is supplied from the mains.

The parishes of Dursley, Cam, Slimbridge and Stinchcombe are supplied from two sources.

- (1) Caswell, Dursley, from springs issuing from the marlstone. The character of water is $33\cdot5^{\circ}$ hardness.
- (2) Millend, North Nibley, from springs issuing from the marlstone. The character of the water is $28\cdot5^{\circ}$ hardness.

There are two pumping stations, one at Caswell and one at Millend, and in both cases the water is pumped by electrically driven motors to a 90,000 gallon high level reservoir situated at Whiteway, Dursley.

The old Diesel oil driven engines were taken out from Millend station and electric motors and pumps installed during the year.

In three instances the water is boosted to the high levels of the district. Complaints were received of an inadequate supply to the higher parts of the district; this was not in any way due to actual shortage of water at the source, but through the existing mains not being of sufficient capacity to deliver the quantity of water needed during the peak periods. The proposed new high level main, which at the time of the preparation of this report is being laid, will overcome this difficulty and will allow at least two boosters and a small pumping plant at Sandpits to be discontinued.

Uley.

Is supplied from the springs at Caswell and is boosted by Hydrostats situated at the pumping station at Caswell to a 20,000 gallon reservoir at Whitecourt, Uley.

North Nibley.

This parish is supplied from Millend Springs and is pumped by electrically driven pumps to a 20,000 gallon reservoir situated in North Nibley.

Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood.

These parishes are supplied from three sources :—

- (1) Springs situated at Hamblins Brake issuing from the Fuller Earth.
- (2) Springs at Frogend, and
- (3) Springs at Tily Bottom issuing from Cotswold Sands. The character of the water is 30.5° total hardness.

Hamblins Brake supply is delivered to a reservoir by gravitation ; the other two sources are pumped by electrically driven motors and pumps to a 100,000 gallon reservoir situated at Coombe, Wotton-under-Edge.

During the severe drought this year the yield from the springs dropped to such an extent that it was found necessary to supply the water intermittently and it will be necessary, when permission from the Ministry can be obtained, to augment this supply from other sources.

Nympsfield.

This parish is supplied from springs situated at Caswell and an electrically driven pump delivers the water to a 8,000 gallon reservoir near the top of Frocester Hill.

Coaley.

The source of the supply is from two springs at Spring Tynning near the foot of Coaley Hill. The character of the water is 28° total hardness. The springs issue from beds of limestone.

The water is collected and gravitates to a service tank of 5,000 gallons capacity. This service tank maintains a gravity supply to the village.

A series of samples from the springs show that on occasions the water is unsatisfactory due probably to the recent intensive cultivation and manuring of arable land.

Generally.

All supplies are chlorinated before it reaches the consumer.

In 1944, Consultant Engineers drew up a planning scheme for water supply to the whole of the District, which the Council hope some day to put into operation when sanction can be obtained from the Ministry of Health.

Connections to Water Mains.

During 1947 the following connections were made to the Council's water mains:—

<i>Parish.</i>					<i>No. of houses connected.</i>
Dursley	..	..	..	..	Nil
Cam ..	..	..	..	..	7
Stinchcombe	..	..	..	..	8
Coaley	..	..	..	..	1
Uley ..	..	..	..	..	10
Slimbridge	..	..	..	..	4
Nympsfield	..	..	..	..	1
Wotton-under-Edge	..	..	..	..	5
Kingswood	..	..	..	..	Nil
North Nibley	..	..	..	..	Nil
A total of					36 connec'ns.

PARISH	Estimated Population	No. of Prop- erties in Parish	No. of Properties connected with a piped water supply	
			Meter	Domestic
Cam	2800	911	36	775
Coaley	632	195	—	121
Dursley	5213	1504	37	1488
Kingswood	837	306	11	262
North Nibley	741	243	26	117
Nympsfield	352	72	6	56
Slimbridge	817	254	24	157
Stinchcombe	426	127	17	84
Uley & Owlpen	1252	344	Uley 8	250
			Owlpen Nil	Nil
Wotton-u-Edge	3430	1109	24	1031
	16500	5065	189	4341

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Cam and Dursley.

Practically the whole of these two parishes is sewered on a partially separate system. The sewage is treated at the Outfall Works situated near Halmore Hills, Cam.

The works are fairly modern comprising screen chamber, settlement tanks, storm water tanks, filters, and sludge drying beds. Due to many new connections made in recent years and to the fact that it has not been possible to carry out any alterations, the works are seriously overloaded.

Coaley.

There are no proper sewers. Some properties deposit foul water into a ditch which runs alongside the village.

Slimbridge.

There are no proper sewers. Some properties discharge their foul water into rhines adjoining the road which gives rise to some nuisance.

Kingswood.

There are no proper sewers. Some properties are drained to an old surface water sewer which discharges into a stream running through the village. A nuisance does exist.

Council houses are drained to septic tanks.

North Nibley.

There are no proper sewers and a number of houses are connected up to a small septic tank and filter provided from new Council houses.

Nympsfield.

There are no sewers. This village is an isolated one on top of the Cotswolds and lends itself to a small separate disposal works.

Stinchcombe.

There are no sewers. Council houses are connected to a septic tank and filters and the foul water from a number of the old properties are connected to a surface water sewer which discharges on to the road leading to the old village and this gives rise to a nuisance.

Uley and Owlpen.

There are no proper sewers. A large number of properties are connected to a surface water drain which discharges soapy water and sink waste into the open road gutters giving rise to a nuisance. Other properties discharge sewage to open ditches which eventually drain to the Ewelme stream running through the lower part of the village.

Wotton-under-Edge.

This is sewered on the combined system, and the sewage is treated at a fairly modern outfall works, comprising settlement chambers, filters, storm water tanks and sludge drying beds.

General.

The Council, in the past, have authorised Consultant Engineers to prepare a report on the planning of sewerage and sewerage purification of the district and such a report has been received from the Consultants. Unfortunately, owing to the war, it has not been possible to put any of the suggested schemes into operation .

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse.

Collections are made by direct labour in the parishes of Dursley, Cam, Uley, Owlpen, Stinchcombe, Coaley, Nympsfield and Slimbridge.

Dursley & Cam—Weekly collections.

Uley & Stinchcombe—Fortnightly collections.

Coaley, Nympsfield, Slimbridge and Owlpen—Monthly collections.

Wotton-under-Edge, Kingswood and North Nibley refuse is collected by Contractor.

Salvage.

This is collected by the Council's General lorry.

Monthly collections are made and notice given by insertion in the press.

Most of the salvage is waste paper and the response varies with the village or district. As much as 80% of the houses in some districts respond whilst others make very little effort.

In the parishes where refuse is collected by Contractor the Salvage collection is not so good; this is due probably to the fact, that the Refuse Contractors like to get all the paper they can in order to sell for profit.

Salvage from Uley is collected by private dealer.

Salvage from Trade premises is collected, but neither the general arrangements nor the response are satisfactory, owing to the fact that collections are irregular.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is taken to Slimbridge tip, except in the case of Wotton, Kingswood and North Nibley parishes, and is carried out under controlled conditions as far as it is practicable with the Staff available .

The tip can be said to be reasonably well maintained and infestation is kept under control by the use of Gammexane powder.

North Nibley, Wotton and Kingswood refuse is taken to a tip near the Old Brick Yard at Wotton-under-Edge. This tip is in no way controlled and cannot be said to be satisfactory.

Collection.

The collection of the refuse is carried out with one 7 cu-yd. Bantam Karrier and the salvage is collected with a 30 cwt. Bedford Truck. A new Bedford lorry has been on order for 9 months and delivery is still awaited.

The staff consists of 1 Driver/Loader, 2 Loaders, 1 Tip attendant, and 1 part time Tip attendant.

Salvage is collected by 2 part time employees.

The gross cost of Refuse and Salvage during the year amounted to £2,340 and Salvage to the value of £320 was disposed of.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Plans were prepared for the above at Wotton-under-Edge and Cam, but so far it has not been possible to proceed with this work.

There exists at the present four Public Conveniences—two at Dursley and two at Wotton-under-Edge.

It is very desirable that more Public Conveniences should be provided in the District, especially in Dursley.

HOUSING.

The housing situation is still very serious and from the Rural District Housing Survey carried out during 1946-7, it will be seen that 15·6% of the houses examined are unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost.

The housing application table shows that a total of 901 have applied for Council houses and the provision of houses is imperative in the near future to relieve this pressing situation.

From the other table it can be seen that only 19 houses were completed in 1947, and the number of houses in progress of building was 171. These few houses can only partially relieve the large amount of unfit houses and statutory overcrowding in the district.

Surveys, levels and contoured plans were prepared for the following sites:—

Innocks, North Nibley	..	..	2·10 acres
Moorend, Slimbridge	..	..	5·58 „ (2 sites)
Coaley (Betworthy site)	..	..	5·10 „
Coaley (Hamshill site)	..	..	1·46 „
Kingswood	..	..	3·15 „
Woodfields	..	..	12·60 „
Spouthouse Lane, Cam	..	..	7·315 „
World's End site, Wotton	..	..	4·34 „
A total of			41·645 „

Layouts were prepared for:—

Innocks, North Nibley.
Nympsfield
Betworthy Site, Coaley.
Hamshill Site, Coaley.
Moorend, Slimbridge.
Woodfields, Dursley.
Kingswood.

The other layouts, namely, Spouthouse Lane site, Kingshill and World's End sites were prepared by the Consultant Architects.

Levels and plans of roads and sewers were prepared for the following sites:—

Spouthouse Lane Site.
Kingshill.
Innocks, North Nibley.
World's End Site, Wotton-under-Edge.
Moorend site, Slimbridge.
Kingswood.
Woodfields.

Plans and levels for sewerage schemes were prepared for Kingswood and Slimbridge sites.

Specifications and Bills of Quantities were prepared for Roads and sewers at:—

Spouthouse Lane site.
Kingshill.
Innocks, North Nibley.
World's End Site, Wotton-under-Edge.
Moorend, Slimbridge.
Woodfields.
Kingswood,

and for Sewerage schemes at Kingswood and Slimbridge.

Building Licences.

During the twelve months a considerable amount of the inspectorate and office staff's time was devoted to administration of Civil Building Licences.

445 applications were received and investigated, 431 Licences were issued to a total value of £29,494 10s. 1d. Five licences for new dwellings were included in this figure.

Work entailed with new Housing and administration in connection with Control of Civil Building has meant that much of the normal routine work of the Engineer and Surveyor's Department has had to be left. Plans of sewers and water supply mains are incomplete. A number of Council houses and privately developed estates and individual houses need to be surveyed so that office records and the Ordnance Maps can be brought up to date.

Inspection, management and repair of Council houses in general has not been given as much attention as one would like.

Difficulty has also been experienced in maintaining the normal routine visits to private building in the District.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>PREMISES</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(1) Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	26	35	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Sect. 7 applies:—				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Act 1938	5	7	—	—
(b) Others	6	9	—	—
(3) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	37	51	—	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

<i>PARTICULARS</i>	<i>No. of cases in which defects were found.</i>				
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>		<i>Prosecutions</i>
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	1	1	—	1	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	2	—	2	—

Outwork. Sections 110 and 111.

Nature of Work.

Wearing Apparel—Making, etc.

Number of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110=70.

Total Number of Cowkeepers in District	..	174
Number of Farms registered as 'Tuberculin 'Tested	..	24
Number of Farms registered as Accredited	..	34
Percentage of farms in district producing 'T.T. Milk	..	13·8
Percentage of farms producing Designated Milk	..	33·3

NUMBER OF FARMS IN DISTRICT.

Cam	..	..	..	..	..	23
Coaley	..	..	..	..	..	24
Dursley	..	..	..	..	..	5
Kingswood	..	..	..	..	..	20
North Nibley	..	..	..	..	..	23
Nympsfield	..	..	..	..	..	7
Slimbridge	..	..	..	..	..	25
Stinchcombe	..	..	..	..	..	9
Uley and Owlpen	..	..	..	..	..	17
Wotton-under-Edge	..	..	..	..	..	21
						174

MILK SUPPLIERS AND FARMS.

Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Licence Holders by Parishes.

PARISH	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited	Total
Cam	3	5	8
Coaley	4	4	8
Dursley	1	1	2
Kingswood	3	5	8
North Nibley	5	4	9
Nympsfield	1	—	1
Slimbridge	4	3	7
Stinchcombe	2	2	4
Uley & Owlpen	1	5	6
Wotton-under-Edge	—	5	5
TOTALS	24	34	58

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

General Sanitation.

*No. of Inspections
or visits.*

Water Supply	19
Drainage	163
Tents, Vans & Sheds	2
Factories	51
Workplaces	64
Bakehouses	38
Public Conveniences	110
Refuse Collection	153
Refuse Disposal	178
Rats and Mice	14
Schools	4
Shops	3
Fried Fish Shops	19
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	177
Survey (Inspections)	3981

Housing.

Under Public Health Acts	68
Overcrowding	35
Verminous Premises	2

Infectious Diseases.

Inquiries in case of I.D.	7
Visits re disinfection	16

Inspection of Meat and Foods.

Visits to Slaughterhouses	21
Visits to Shop and stalls	48
Visits to other premises	8
Butchers	55
Cowsheds	165
Dairies and Milk Shops	161
Ice Cream Premises	—
Grocers	58
Restaurants	16
Fishmongers and Poulterers	25

Visits in connection with sampling.

Milk—Bacteriological	78
----------------------------	----

TOTAL	5739
-------------	------

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

(a) Inspections made	5739
(b) Informal Notice served	40
(c) Statutory Notices sent	Nil
(d) Notices complied with	29
(e) Summonses issued	Nil
(f) Convictions obtained	Nil

CONDEMNED FOOD REGISTER.

During the year the following food was inspected and destroyed.

Tinned Foods	..	..	..	..	600 tins
Other Foodstuffs	..	..	..	..	311½ lbs.
Meat and Sausages	..	..	..	..	1,142 „
Wet Fish	..	..	..	..	637 „

In the case of the meat, this was chiefly quarters of Argentine beef affected with bone taint, the major portion of which was returned to the Distributors for treatment for commercial purposes.

No cases of T.B. were found. Small quantities of meat were affected with cysts (*Echinococcus Veterinorum*), Flukes (*Distoma Hepaticum*) and one case of *Coernurus Cerebralis*.

Milk Samples.

During the year under review 78 milk samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination.

The results showed that 18 were below the accredited milk standard.

CONCLUSION.

During the year 1947, the general health of the area was good. There were no major epidemics of infectious disease except that of Measles which was generalised all over the country.

The Death Rate of 10·8 per 1,000 of the population is very favourable compared to that for the whole of England and Wales which was 12·0.

It is rather unfortunate that the birth rate should be as low as 17·4 in comparison with that of England and Wales which was 19·4. The shortage of housing for young married couples may have something to do with this low figure in an industrial area.

The infant Mortality Rate of 23·9 per 1,000 live births is very creditable and compares favourably with that of England and Wales which was 41. This is the lowest level ever recorded in this District.

The maternal mortality rate is also an excellent criterion of the Maternity Services in the area—there were no deaths of mothers in childbirth during the year.

The immunisation scheme against Diphtheria has continued very successfully in the area. 75% of the children under 15 years of age in the District have completed a course. During the year there was only one case of Diphtheria and that was in a child who had not been previously immunised. For purposes of comparison, in 1935 there were 39 cases of Diphtheria in the area, and in 1938 there were 32 cases.

The Housing situation is still very difficult owing to the large number of unfit houses in this rural area and the increasing population. It is hoped that the Ministry of Health will see their way to relieve this situation in the very near future.

The Council have now prepared schemes for watering and sewerage the rural parishes in the District and these have been submitted to the Ministry for approval. One realises that the economic situation is holding up the carrying out of these schemes, but when one sees the type of disposal that there is in these rural areas this work can only be regarded as a dire emergency in these modern days of sanitation.

